

# 2021

## Millgrove Community Plan



Millgrove Residents Action Group

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### Millgrove Residents Action Group

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Garden & River Crew: Mick Corrie, John Coulter, Tim Forbes, Alan Leggett, Bernie Peeler

Established in 2005, the Millgrove Residents Action Group (MRAG) is one of the longest serving township groups in the Yarra Ranges. In 2012 the group was named Community Group of the Year by Yarra Ranges Council Australia Day Awards. In the same year, thanks to the efforts of MRAG, Millgrove was deemed a finalist in the Tidy Towns-Sustainable Communities Awards for Community Leadership. In January 2017 MRAG was recognized by Yarra Ranges Council for its active role in the 2016 major storm clean-up campaign.

### MRAG's Vision Statement

***Working to create a welcoming, safe and vibrant place, by being inclusive, caring and positive. Millgrove, a place we are proud to call home.***

**MRAG's Mission Statement:** *To contribute towards and foster the community spirit within Millgrove.*

### MRAG's objectives:

- Highlight and promote the many positives within our community
- Encourage and nurture partnership in community initiatives
- Contribute to the process of identifying and addressing community needs and concerns

Raise awareness of services and opportunities within our community

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Millgrove Residents Action Group would like to respectfully acknowledge the Traditional Owners, the Wurundjeri People, as the custodians of this land. We also pay respect to all Aboriginal community Elders, past and present who have resided in the area and have been an integral part of the history of this region.

A big thank you to everyone who helped to create this plan:

- Residents, landowners, workers, students and traders of Millgrove who participated in this process
- MRAG committee members
- Cr Jim Child, Yarra Ranges Council
- Cindy McLeish, MP
- Maxine Burke, facilitator forum
- Michael Goodrich, Community Development Officer, Yarra Ranges Council

## INTRODUCTION

The township of Millgrove is 63 kilometres east of central Melbourne, and 32 kilometers east of Lilydale, along the Warburton Highway, in the Upper Yarra Valley and lies at the foot of Mt Little Joe. The Yarra River runs through the town. There are several residential clusters located amongst forested hills. Residents travel by car or bus to Warburton and Yarra Junction to access most of their retail and community services. A railway line from Lilydale to Warburton was opened in 1901, to transport timber and farm produce out of the area. The line was closed in 1965 and has been replaced with a well-used recreational rail trail. The primary school was opened in 1914.



A community building project was initiated in Millgrove by Tammy Lobato MP in 2004, following her election to the Victorian State Parliament. The project led to a range of actions that were taken by Ms Lobato on behalf of the Millgrove community. It also led to the formation of the Millgrove Residents Action Group Inc. (MRAG).

To mark the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of MRAG, the committee initiated a community planning process. Community planning is a process where the members of a community work together to identify a shared community vision of the future, and priorities and actions that they can undertake to improve their wellbeing.

MRAG presented its first Community Development Plan to the Yarra Ranges Council, at the Council meeting of 1 December 2015. Since then at least 65% of projects have been achieved. See list pages 9-11.

## MILLGROVE'S CHARACTERISTICS

### Demographics

Millgrove has a population of 1,653 people (2016 Census). The population increased dramatically between 1961 (273) and 1991 (1,715), as new residential areas were opened up, on relatively inexpensive land. Comparing the 2011 and 2016 Census, the population has stabilized.

In 2016, the proportions of one parent families in the Yarra Junction/Millgrove/Wesburn area (12.8%), and of lone person households (28.4%), are higher than those for Yarra Ranges as a whole (11.2% one parent and 20% lone person). The proportion of households with couples, either with or without children, is much lower than for Yarra Ranges as a whole. In 2020, an estimated 6.7% of the population was aged 0-4, compared to 6.3% for Yarra Ranges.

38% of persons aged 15+ were not in the labour force, compared to 31% for Yarra Ranges as a whole. The SEIFA Index of Disadvantage for the combined area of Yarra Junction, Millgrove, and Wesburn is 950.3, the lowest in Yarra Ranges.

Incomes are lower in Yarra Junction/Millgrove/Wesburn as a whole. More than half (53%) of households had an income of less than \$1250 per week in 2016, compared to 37% in Yarra Ranges as a whole.

19.1% of households in Yarra Junction/Millgrove/Wesburn were not connected to the internet in 2016, compared to 10.5% in Yarra Ranges as a whole.

For more detailed information: <https://profile.id.com.au/yarra-ranges/about?WebID=300>

[https://quickstats.censusdata.abs.gov.au/census\\_services/getproduct/census/2016/quickstat/SSC21674?opendocument](https://quickstats.censusdata.abs.gov.au/census_services/getproduct/census/2016/quickstat/SSC21674?opendocument)

## MILLGROVE'S CHARACTERISTICS

### Features

The Yarra River is a significant environmental asset for the community, and the vegetation on the riverbanks is an important habitat for native fauna. The Yarra Ranges National Park, including Mt Donna Buang and Ben Cairn, reaches down to the outskirts of the town. The township lies at the foot of Mt. Little Joe. At the end of Dee Road there is access to the 30km long O'Shannassy Aqueduct Trail that stretches from Don Valley to East Warburton.



The retail businesses in Millgrove include a general store, a bakery, fish and chips shop, a nursery/music shop, strawberry farm, artisan cheese makery and a sawmill. The sawmill salvages and mills logs that are not harvested by other timber industry operators. In February 2020 the local Newsagency/Post office closed.

A picnic and BBQ area with toilets is located next to the rail trail, opposite the shops, and is an important stopping point for visitors and a meeting place for locals. McKenzie King Reserve, at the start of McKenzie King Drive, has a playground.

The town has a primary school, pre-school, three churches and a soccer club. The Millwarra Community Centre is situated on the grounds of the primary school in partnership with River Valley Church and is used by the church and community groups, as well as the school. The Millwarra Community Centre has a 300-seat auditorium and a half-court basketball stadium. Pallotti College sits above Millgrove and can be hired for conferences and other group activities. Melbourne High School operate an Outdoor Education Centre located on Dee Rd. A new CFA Station/Community Fire Refuge opened on 13<sup>th</sup> of December 2015. The refuge is a last-resort shelter option only. Our Oval is a Bushfire Neighbourhood Safer Place.

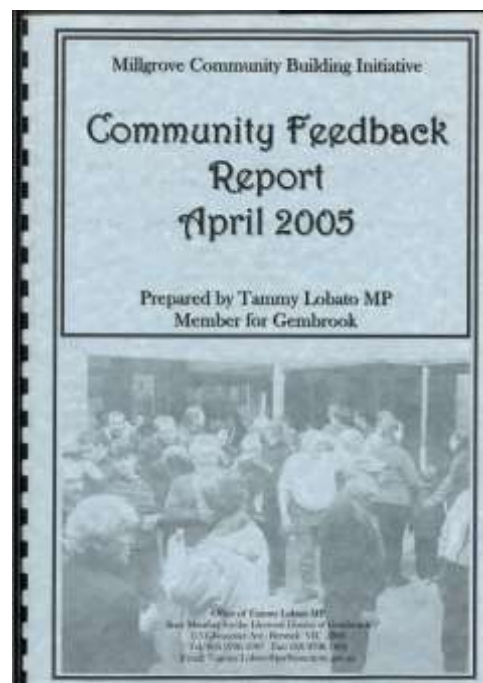
There is a public bus that runs at least hourly on weekdays between 5.43am and 8.31pm, to Lilydale Railway Station and Chirnside Park Shopping Centre. One service in the morning and one in the afternoon divert through the town on school days and are open for public use. On Saturdays and Sundays, the service runs hourly and starts at 7.23am and 9am respectively. Taxi services are limited.



**Millgrove Community Building Project, 2004-2005**

The Millgrove Community Building Project was initiated by the newly elected Member for State Parliament for the seat of Gembrook, Tammy Lobato. A “Millgrove Community Building Day” was held in November 2004, which attracted 100 residents. At that time, residents were concerned about social and economic issues arising from inter-generational unemployment, skill shortages and poverty. The Millgrove Community Building Project was modelled on the successful Neighbourhood Renewal Program, which aimed to tackle the root causes of disadvantage, and to build new partnerships across government and communities.

Groups involved in this day included the River Valley Church, Millgrove Environment Restoration Group, Warburton/Millgrove Football Club, Millwarra Primary School, Millgrove CFA, Wesburn Junior Football Club, and Victoria Police, as well as local and state government representatives.



The table below summarises the key outcomes from this planning day:

Issues	Plan	Outcome
Children and Youth	Establish a Youth Advisory Committee at Upper Yarra Secondary College	Established
Infrastructure and Services	Lobby to seal shoulders on Warburton Highway	Ongoing (Yarra Ranges Council)
	Request that Millgrove be included in a study to look at how bus services could be improved	Insufficient support received
	Lobby for a pedestrian crossing where the Rail Trail crosses Warburton Highway, and trimming of trees in sightlines	Constructed
	Lobby for Wonga Road to be included in Council's dust suppressant program	Implemented
	Lobby for repair of River Road and McKenzie King Drive	McKenzie King Dr implemented
	Expand mail delivery to all parts of Millgrove	Wonga Rd delivery established
	Lobby for new signage and rolled crushed rock on Rail Trail	Implemented
	Erect an interpretation gateway with map, information, and business promotion at Millgrove train station site	Included in 2015 plan
Sport and Recreation	Lobby for Master Plan for Millgrove Recreation Reserve	Plan completed in 2007
	Lobby for a playground for McKenzie King Reserve	Constructed
	Lobby for public toilets for Warburton Highway and at the Recreation Reserve	Constructed

Community Learning	Establish Millgrove Residents Action Group Inc. which would act for the best interests of residents, and could apply for funding for festivals and events	Established
	MRAG to distribute a regular Millgrove community newsletter	Newsletter replaced by social media (Facebook + Blog)
	Apply to the Community Facilities Fund for a multifunction facility which will provide a range of learning initiatives for the Millwarra school and Upper Yarra communities.	Millwarra Community Centre built
Women	Raise concerns about the prevalence of Domestic Violence in Victoria.	Letter from Tammy Lobato to the Minister for Women's Affairs and the Women's Caucus.
Environment	Request funding for weed control along Yarra River	Funding provided to Millgrove Environmental Restoration Group.
	Request that a committee be appointed to manage the river frontages	In 2018 MERG folded and handed the committee of management for the Yarra River frontage over to MRAG
Community Safety	Support a funding application for Upper Yarra SES to purchase a hydraulic generator.	Application was successful



## Upper Yarra Community Building Initiative (UYCBI), 2006-2011

In October 2005, a year after the Forum in Millgrove, Upper Yarra Community House successfully applied for funding from the Victorian Department of Victorian Communities, to establish a Community Building program in the Upper Yarra. The newly formed Millgrove Residents Action Group was a partner in this project, along with similar groups in Warburton and Yarra Junction, as well as Yarra Ranges Council. Advocacy and project work was carried out over the next 5 years throughout the Upper Yarra, including lobbying for better transport, medical services, recreational facilities, employment opportunities and affordable housing.

In Millgrove, the significant project that was attempted as part of the UYCBI was the “third bridge” project, a pedestrian bridge which was proposed to cross the Yarra River roughly half-way between the two existing road bridges over the river. This bridge would improve access to the centre of the town for residents in River, McKenzie King and Wonga Roads, and would also improve pedestrian safety for schoolchildren. Despite many years of research and advocacy by the community, government support for this project was not forthcoming.

Other significant projects were supporting the establishment of the Upper Yarra Community Environment Park in Wesburn, now known as Yarra Valley ECOSS, and successful advocacy that led to the creation of new sporting facilities at Yarra Junction Recreation Reserve.





### 2006

- Community Men's Kitchen
- Mail Deliveries in Wonga Road
- Supported Community hall
- Road Signs/speed restriction signs
- Mirror at the end of Tulloch Street
- Signs forbidding the dumping of rubbish
- Pedestrian Lights
- Start restoration of Millgrove First World War Avenue of Honor
- Improvements to the Millgrove Station Reserve Area (Ongoing)
- A Welcome Sign for Millgrove (Ongoing)
- Involvement in Carols by Candlelight
- After Hours Medical Clinic Campaign
- Take responsibility for Millgrove Sunday Market



### 2007

- Affordable Housing Campaign
- Railway/PO Centenary Celebrations
- 3rd Bridge Project (Not forthcoming)

### 2008

- Solar Power Project

### 2009

- The inauguration of the Millgrove Anzac Day Dawn Service
- Carols By Candlelight at Pallotti College



### 2010

- Graffiti Clean Up Day & Community BBQ

### 2011

- Inauguration Remembrance Day Service

### 2012

- Yarra Ranges Council Community Group of the Year
- Certificate of Recognition, Tidy Towns 2012

### 2013

- Face book set up (Mar 2013)
- 3 Lipstick Maple trees planted at entrance of Millgrove



### 2014

- Cypress Tree in park removed due to termites
- Town graffiti removal
- Participation in the community consultative committee towards the development of a Community Fire Refuge and CFA Fire Station in the township of Millgrove

**MRAG donates annually to various local community groups, schools and churches**

Following the development of the 2015-2017 Community Plan, MRAG has been active implementing and lobbying for numerous projects identified as part of the plan.

**2015**

- Footpath from the Warburton Hwy up Gillis Road and Cavanagh Road is completed (Dec)
- 2nd Community Forum re Development plan (Jun)
- 1st Community Forum re Development plan
- Community Development Plan 2015 presented to Yarra Ranges Council (Dec)
- 13 December - Opening of CFA fire refuge
- New footpath between Dee Road and Gillis Road (Dec)

**2016**

- Enclosed Community Notice board in Shop Precinct in partnership with CFA (Feb)
- Footpath 'Nadires Walk' between Shop precinct and Millwarra Primary School/Cavanagh Road, including area (Jun)
- Resurfacing of a carpark area in Cavanagh Road at Millwarra Primary School
- Safety fence on corner Gillis St – Cavanagh Rd (Jun)
- Flag pole replacement (Sep)
- Info session about Local Health Services at AGM (Aug)
- Successful lobbying to address and rectify landslip area in Wonga Road (Sep)
- Lobbying for upgrading and fixing board walk (Sep)
- Christmas decorations in shop precinct (Dec)



Lobbying for:

- River Rd project
- Drainage problem and road sealing for Cavanagh Rd
- Public Transport (submitted to SoYR 20 year vision - Have your say)
- Yarra River accessibility for residents and visitors and keep walking tracks open/or extend.

Lobbying for this more intensely since Oct 2016



**2017**

- Recognized by Yarra Ranges Council for MRAG's active role in 2016 major storm clean-up campaign (Jan)
- Two mowers (Mar)
- Establishment of a Telstra tower in Millgrove (Jun)
- Development of a very successful monthly Trivia Night, which is a valued social event for many Millgrove residents. Started on the 19<sup>th</sup> July.
- 'MATE' Presentation about recognizing gender and domestic violence (Nov)
- New wooden bridge on Dee Rd walking track
- Continued beautification of the township through extensive landscaping and planting projects. Including the planting of 150 plants donated to the community via MRAG (Sep)
- Decoration of township during Christmas time throughout Millgrove township with purpose made wooden decorations 'Candy canes'



**MRAG donates annually to various local community groups, schools and churches**

## 2018

- Ongoing monthly Trivia night + free dinner
- Clean up Australia Day 4 Mar
- Opening Street Library following an initiative by Millgrove Preschool (Jul)
- New Avenue of Honour, 6 trees planted (Aug) and signage in progress
- 'Pick my Project' submission for River Road Community Walking Track (Aug) – Unsuccessful
- New picnic table – Dee Road river walking track (Sep)
- State funding of \$192,781 received for the River Road walking track project (Nov)
- Redecorating of exterior public toilet block in Memorial Park Reserve (Nov)



## 2019

- Ongoing monthly Trivia night + free dinner
- Successful lobbying for repair of the board walk along the Warburton Hwy (adjacent to the Mill)
- Minor upgrade McKenzie King Playground, with full renewal to occur in 2024
- Dishwasher purchase for Trivia nights (combined MRAG-Millgrove Baptist Church)
- Announcement of federal funding for sealing part of Cavanagh Road and part of Moore Crescent (Apr)
- Community Forum + dinner Oct
- Anti-graffiti paint on exterior of Park reserve public toilet block
- Installation of ashtrays in shop precinct
- Dee Rd river bank clean up by Millwarra PS students
- Christmas decorations expansion



## 2020

- Ongoing monthly Trivia night + free dinner
- Successful lobbying to receive funding for drainage and sealing part of Cavanagh Road in front of Millwarra Primary School and Moore Crescent that leads into the Sporting Reserve and Millgrove Pre-School
- Start-up of monthly Saturday markets
- Online Trivia Fix during COVID (30 Mar 2020 till 21 Dec 2020)
- Installation of water bubblers in McKenzie King Drive Reserve and in Memorial Park Reserve.



### Note:

- Due to COVID-19 pandemic, that started in March 2020
- there has been a temporary hold on monthly Markets & Trivia nights
  - committee meetings have been temporary held online



## 2021

- Markets now held every 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday and 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of every month
- Permanent path and wheelchair access to Warburton Rail Trail behind McKenzie-King bus stop (Apr)

**MRAG donates annually to various local community groups, schools and churches**

### River Road Walking Track

In November 2018, following disappointing news from the Pick My Project Campaign, in which MRAG applied for funding for this project, MRAG was presented with \$192,781 by the Victorian State Government to develop the Millgrove River Road Community Walking Track. This project is a priority in MRAG's Community Development Plan 2015-17 and the funding secured the success of this project.



### Avenue of Honour



During the course of the Great War of 1914-1918 twenty-six young men left Millgrove to participate in the greatest adventure of their lives. Five Millgrove people did not return.

An Avenue of Honour in memory of those who served in that conflict was established in 1922. However, a storm in 1934 caused a great deal of damage to that Avenue and it appeared to have been largely forgotten since then. During 2016, after one of the Avenue of Honour trees fell in a storm not long after ANZAC Day, the RSL Warburton Sub branch and the Millgrove Resident's Action Group Decided to create a new Avenue of Honour to remember the Millgrove men who fell in the Great War. This project is due to be completed during 2021

### Millgrove Environmental Restoration Group (MERG)

MERG was established in 2007 and has been a very successful working group in creating paths along the Yarra River. Working bees with the community and many tree planting days with Millwarra Primary School have been held. MERG has also been involved with Ben's Shed, a men's working group, to build picnic tables on the banks of the Yarra.

In 2012 MERG (under the MRAG umbrella) won the Tidy Towns Sustainable Communities Awards for Protection of the Environment. MERG officially disbanded in February 2016. Two of their members joined MRAG to continue their activities in maintaining the riverside areas established by MERG. *MRAG has agreed to take up the role of Committee of Management in July 2020.*

### Millgrove Preschool

Millgrove Preschool has been around for more than 30 years and provides a high quality educational program for the local community. It is rated as 'Exceeding National Standard', a ranking made by the Australian Children's Education and Care Quality Authority, an independent national authority. The Preschool runs a 3 and 4 year old Kinder.



The program at the school uses Millgrove to make the children aware of the beauty of our township, by using the oval for runs, going to the river for lunch (on hot days paddle their feet in the river) and go for autumn walks to discover the exiting colours of nature. In winter when the weather keeps the children inside for too long, the Community Building's Gym is available.

### Yarra Valley Soccer Club (YVSC)

The Yarra Valley Soccer Club was established in 2003.

The Club is made up of 'Valley Kids Soccer' for the young ones, who join the club to learn rather than focusing on competition.

Then there are the U10's, U12's and U14's Junior teams, three senior Men's teams and one women's team.

Games are played at the Millgrove Recreation Reserve. Come along on game days (Saturday) and help cheer on the club.

The club is always looking for players and new members can join anytime. Why not come along and have a kick.....



### Millwarra Primary School



#### The Yarra River

The river is a well-used asset for the school children. From 'Pooh Sticks' off the bridge at Dee Rd, to maths, to fungus hunts, weed identification and skimming stones. The students love to spend time at the river. In the past students were involved in revegetation work along the river with MERG.

In art lots of work is made using natural materials, so often classes start with a venture down to the river to collect things like leaves, bark or sticks.

#### ANZAC Dawn Service

The school is very committed to the ANZAC Dawn Service. All students make lanterns in art and each year there is a huge assembly line with all the staff involved. Students also recite the poem 'In Flanders Field' at the service.

### CFA Fire Refuge

With a special CFA station in Millgrove and many parents being CFA members, there have been many visits to the local station.

### Ben's Shed

Students learn new hands on skills. However, more importantly, it is an opportunity to meet and be mentored by the members, who are a role model to students.

### Yarra Valley FM

The senior students enjoy their time at the local radio station, while their class mates listen to them back at school. Who knows, there could be some budding radio announcers!

### Golden Wattle Club

The senior class meet with the Healesville Golden Wattle Club each term. This is a beautiful opportunity for the students to meet and engage with some older people in the community.

### Yarra Junction Library

Each class travels to the Yarra Junction Library for a session. Not only is it an opportunity for the students to check out the books and borrow, but the library has run IT sessions with the students to show the online resources that are available to Library members. Students know that the library is a safe place for them for studying and completing their homework undisturbed once they go to high school.

### Bike Ed

Younger students start in the school grounds and ultimately will use the Warburton Trail. They go to Yarra Junction and Warburton to use the pedestrian lights. Senior students have a bi-annual bike camp. Then there is the 'Go For Your Life Wheel's Day', where the children ride or scoot on the trail.

Students at Millwarra Primary School appreciate Millgrove and its surroundings and find it a great learning environment.

## **Pallotti College**

Pallotti College likes to be part of the local community as much as possible with outreach and assistance as well as support where able. We try as much as possible to use local tradespeople and buy from local shops/retailers. Support for local endeavours is also important to us. Our outreach includes:

<i>Good Tucker Day</i>	Shared on alternating Tuesdays with the River Valley Church in the Millgrove Reserve opposite the shops. Available for anyone in the community to attend.
<i>Christmas Day Lunch</i>	Free to the community
<i>Wood Bank</i>	For local families
<i>Emergency accommodation</i>	Through referrals from agencies and churches
<i>Emergency relief</i>	Food, support, referrals – accessible to all community members. A minister, residing at the College, is always available for anyone in the community



## River Valley Church

River Valley Church meets on a Sunday morning for Church at 10.30am at the Millwarra Community Centre. All warmly welcome. The Church office has moved to a room within the Millgrove Baptist Church and provides emergency relief programs and administration from this space. Contact: 0487 381 378 All warmly welcome.



Good Tucker Day	FREE lunch - every Tuesday in the Memorial Park Reserve opposite the shops. Available to everyone in the community to attend.
Youth Group	Friday evenings, fortnightly at the Millwarra Community Centre. Open to all Youth in the community.
Super Heroes camps	Annual low-cost camps available to children within our community.
Breakfast programs	Held twice a week at Millwarra Primary School, Millgrove Campus and at the Upper Yarra Secondary School, once a week.
Carols by Candlelight	Free community event, held in December, now at the Millwarra Community Centre.
Emergency relief programs	Provided all year around- food relief, referrals, assistance in varied ways, meeting the needs of community members. Transport provided as needed to attend appointments. Support also provided through pastoral care home visits or phone calls.
Sunday Food Relief Program	Fresh food relief program available from 12 midday at the Millwarra Community Centre every Sunday.
Christmas Toy Shop	Provided in conjunction with other local emergency relief agencies. Provides new toys, books etc for families who are experiencing financial hardship.
Christmas Hampers	Hampers for community members who may find Christmas a challenging time financially. Delivered in the week prior to Christmas
Community Workshop	Weekly program to assist and connect people.
Millgrove ANZAC Dawn & Remembrance Day Service	Organised in partnership with MRAG.
Management of Millwarra Community Centre	River Valley Church was a key stakeholder in the development and construction of the Community Centre, and contributed significant funding. River Valley Church are currently the managers of the facility. Many groups use the facility throughout the week.



## Millgrove Baptist Church

Millgrove Baptist Church is a responsive church to community needs. Every Friday through the Second Bite program, 40-plus food parcels are handed out. The work of collating and sharing resources with other groups are carried out by a faithful team at the church. A number of people are actively involved in supporting vulnerable members of the community. The Church provides from time to time to those in need, relating to Anger Management and Emotional Regulation.

Through groups as bowls, trivia and special events social support is provided. Involvement also includes belonging to various community groups and supporting them in their social aims.



The Millgrove Baptist Church seeks to be part of the local community and not just a place of worship.

Carpet Bowls	Monthly on 4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday evening at the Church
Trivia Night in conjunction with MRAG	Monthly on 4 <sup>th</sup> Monday from 6.30pm includes free meal
Junior Youth Group	Weekly during school term for Primary School children
Men's Breakfast	Monthly on 1 <sup>st</sup> Saturday morning at 40 Benwerren Drive, Yarra Junction
Counselling	Group or personal sessions as arranged on Anger Management and Family Difficulties
Second Bite	Every Friday morning from 10-11:30 in the church hall
Mobile Library	Every second Friday morning from 10-11:30 in the church hall
Emergency Relief / Christmas Hampers	Through connections with LinC for residents needing assistance in Millgrove.
Christmas Social Event	First Thursday of December (games, a children's Christmas play and a BBQ).
Church Facilities / Hall	Open for hire by people and groups in the community as advertised in Warburton Directory





### What is Community Planning

It is a process of creating a shared vision and objectives, which serves to guide communities towards improvements for community members and townships. It is prepared by the community for the community, with Yarra Ranges Council supporting the process and acknowledging the outcome.

The process is driven by community members, who decide when to start, how to proceed, who should be involved, what objectives will be attempted, and what the priorities for action will be. This ensures that the process and the outcomes are 'owned' by the community.

### The Process

Since the development of the 2015 Community Plan, MRAG continued to actively work on gathering community thoughts and ideas towards the development of the 2021 Community Plan. To ensure the plan reflects 'community need', MRAG used a range of community consultative strategies including Facebook surveys, face to face market stall discussions with residents and tourists, walk-in conversations at the local newsagent (owned and operated by MRAG President Maureen Halit) and the utilisation of meetings including the MRAG AGM, to generate ideas and discussion.

In total 220 people actively participated in the community planning process in Millgrove, 12 at 2018 AGM – 23 at market – 35 walk in at the Newsagency – 120 through Facebook – 30 at community dinner 2019.

As a result of this extensive consultation process a multitude of ideas for improvement were generated by the community. The various events held are described below.

### COMMUNITY CONSULTATION AT AGM MEETING – 26 AUGUST 2018

Millgrove residents have been invited by mailbox drop and email to attend the MRAG AGM with a focus on Building Community. The purpose of this meeting was to make a start to update Millgrove's Community Development Plan and to gather ideas for new projects.

#### Ideas coming forth out of this meeting

- Dee Road track – rock embankment to stop erosion
- Next to McKenzie King Bridge Bus stop:  
Permanent steps + pram/bike access to get onto the Warburton Trail
- CCTV + lighting
- Renovation of inside of public toilet blocks around township  
(make it fresh and white with granite style floor)
- Concern in regard to deer – damage/accidents etc
- Dee Rd top – steep up-hill road, needs widening for safety
- Safety: walking track behind CFA - needs widening of track or a mirror
- Free vegetable / produce cart – Community Exchange
- Mural on shop walls either side of driveway e.g. re goldmining/log truck
- Millgrove 'Plastic Free'
- Events signage/banners
- Miniature Railway in Park near rail trail
- Pedestrian extension on Dee Rd Bridge
- Observation deck River Road, near Dee Road Bridge
- Drink Bottle carry bag for walkers with Millgrove embroidered on it
- Sign 'Take rubbish home' around Dee Rd Bridge and other points around river
- Carpark top Dee Rd needs a clear name.
- Avenue of Honour – sell timber from old trees as a fundraiser
- Wild life tunnel under Warburton Hwy



In total 220  
people actively  
participated.



The purpose of this survey was to let residents vote on what projects should be prioritized, as well as for them to put new projects/ ideas forward that will make

Millgrove an even better place to live in.

On 24 October the following suggestions came back from the market survey. 23 completed surveys were returned.

Millgrove Community Development Plan 2019-2024

mr ag

I would like to add the following idea(s)

I live in Millgrove: YES / NO

### Additional ideas suggested by community

- Develop the Billabong area (near traffic lights) with seating – Natural Environment
- Build toilets at Aqueduct parking area
- Sculptures in gardens relating to Millgrove history
- Another fire truck
- Signage for public amenities
- Reconstruction of walking track to Platts Falls
- Short distance walking group
- Keep things as rural as possible
- Set up Millgrove’s history for public access on MRAG’s website
- Research and documentation of Millgrove’s history
- Township entry way signage
- Address weeds
- Street furniture around wetlands area and Memorial Park Reserve
- Road signs – ‘ducks crossing’
- More signage for community and emergency radio
- Fence around Millgrove Saw Mill for safety
- Visibility traffic island at shop precinct
- Introduce bocce game (petanque / boule) to the market or have space set up for it



Many residents stay in contact with MRAG through the MRAG Facebook page and through the Newsagency (which unfortunately closed in February 2020)

From June to September 2019 a community survey was conducted through Facebook. The aim of the survey was to prioritize seven goals. The community was asked to give feedback and to suggest new project ideas. The table below shows the community's involvement.

Suggested project	Posted	Shared by	Likes	Reached	Engagements	Comments
Initial post, including Updating toilets	2-Jun-19	7	36	1,091	524	41
Playground	17-Jun-19	6	19	834	329	21
Free food Cart	15-Jun-19	6	42	713	173	12
Miniature railway	13-Jun-19	2	40	522	208	15
Mural – shop wall	8-Jun-19	5	29	499	201	12
Access to rail trail	5-Jun-19	2	21	431	205	14
Stop river embankment erosion	8-Sep-19	1	9	471	171	5
		<b>29</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>4,561</b>	<b>1,811</b>	<b>120</b>

### More ideas suggested by community

- Water bubbler/water bottle refill station at O'Shannassy Aqueduct Lookout
- Seating along O'Shannassy Trail
- Organise fun events with a focus on young families
- Mirror on corner of Dee Rd / McNamaras Rd, it is a blind spot
- Signage at the Dee Rd bridge that indicates it is single lane bridge
- Updating shop area – painting shops to restore to former glory – township improvement
- Increase frequency of market
- Undercover area over the BBQ in Millgrove township
- Install a map at the O'Shannassy Aqueduct Look Out pointing to places of interest
- River Road walkway and footbridge/ crossover between River Road and Dee Road
- Seal Wonga Rd
- Some undercover shelter for the homeless to sleep
- Erect shelters over the picnic tables at the O'Shannassy Aqueduct Lookout
- BMX track
- Install gabions around Memorial Park Reserve
- Walking track parallel to Dee Road all the way up to the O'Shannassy Aqueduct Carpark for safety of walkers and cyclists
- Riverside paths linking Ronald Grove to Riverturn Lane, Warburton, and Whinwell Street through to Station Road
- Viewing platform at the sawmill
- Public fitness equipment
- A bush dance at Millgrove
- Bus service to Mount Donna Buang in the winter
- Update the tables/ chairs area near the shops,
- Tables/chairs near public toilets under cover, bbq
- Advertise community venues



## COLLATING AND CATEGORISING THE IDEAS AND SUGGESTIONS – AUGUST 2019

As a result of this extensive consultation process, a multitude of ideas for improvement were generated by the community. The ideas lay across five key focus areas:

Focus areas and project/action ideas:

- Tourism
- Infrastructure
- The Local Environment
- Community Safety
- Services

### **See annex 1:**

*Areas for Action and Project Ideas as generated by the community*



## COMMUNITY DINNER AND WORKSHOP – 12 OCTOBER 2019

As well as providing a means of gathering community input and generating interest, the Millgrove community was invited to attend a free Community Dinner and Workshop hosted by MRAG, held on the 12<sup>th</sup> of October 2019 in the Millgrove Community Centre.

The workshop was facilitated by Maxine Burke formerly from Double Edged Training and Consultancy.

Over 30 people attended the Community dinner. The audience ranged from residents who had lived in Millgrove for over 65 years, to new residents who had only recently moved to Millgrove within the past six months.



At the beginning of the night, MRAG provided an overview of the projects they had been working on over the past five years, followed by an explanation of the process that was followed to gather community input as part of the community planning process. Send MRAG an email -see page 3- to go into the draw for a prize, MRAG committee members and families excluded, drawn sixth June 2021. There was also a trivia quiz held about Millgrove.

### **The event had four main objectives:**

1. For each individual participant to consider the five focus areas and place them in priority order based on how important they felt each were to Millgrove
2. Through discussion and conversation, consider the projects/actions already submitted under each of the five focus areas and add additional ideas as they are generated
3. Working in four groups (each working on a different focus area), choose two project/actions ideas and develop a Project/Action Template for each activity. *Note: due to the limited capacity of participants to plan for the establishment of services, the group decided to work on only the remaining four focus areas.*
4. Gather community input in the revision of the MRAG vision statement.

## **Objective 1**

**Place the five focus areas in order of priority to Millgrove.**

A weighting system was used to prioritise the focus areas.

1 <sup>st</sup> Priority	Infrastructure	64 points
2 <sup>nd</sup> Priority	Community Safety	61 points
3 <sup>rd</sup> Priority	The environment	60 points
4 <sup>th</sup> Priority	Services	55 points
5 <sup>th</sup> Priority	Tourism	42 points



## **Objective 2**

**Consider the existing projects/ideas already put forward and add additional ideas as they are generated through discussion and conversation.**

The following additional ideas were generated

### **Infrastructure**

- Better advertising of community venues
- River Road walkway and footbridge to connect River Road to Dee Road
- Improve footpath between shops to McKenzie King Drive to accommodate both walkers and cycling
- Town water to McNamara Road
- Traffic mirror at corner of Tulloch and River Roads

### **The local environment**

- Address feral animal control (rabbits, foxes, deer) using non- toxic means
- Ensure board walk along highway remains above water level
- Community Garden Plots

### **Community Safety**

- Establish speed humps at the corner of Cavanagh Road and Gillis Street
- More slow down signs on unmade roads

### **Services**

- Our very own Community House
- More frequent bus service connection to Lilydale trains
- Town water



## **Objective 3**

**Working in four groups, each group was allocated one focus area. Participants chose two projects/actions and worked together to develop a Project Action Template**

At the conclusion of the workshop activity, plans were drafted for seven project activities.

- Dee Road improvement
- CCTV-better lighting
- Dee Road bridge extension
- Accommodate for both walkers and cyclists on footpath along Warburton Hwy
- Free food cart for sharing produce
- Signs 'Take rubbish home'
- Seating along O'Shannassy Aqueduct Trail
- Miniature Railway



## Objective 4

### Gather community input in the review of the MRAG Vision Statement

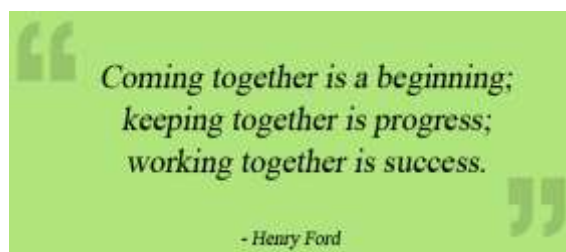
Again, through conversation and discussion participants were invited to come up with words to describe Millgrove in five years. The following words were contributed as part of the evening's event:

Home	Spectacular	Connected	Healthy Community
Vibrant	Welcoming (a place to stop in)	Peaceful	Pristine
Safe	Environmentally Friendly	A place to raise kids	

### FINALISING THE PLAN – JUNE-SEPTEMBER 2020

Using the data received through the various consultation activities undertaken, MRAG will now continue its work towards developing a revised Community Action Plan (2021-2024) on behalf of the broader Millgrove Community, whilst still incorporating the actions which remain to be completed from the earlier 2015 Community Development Plan.

Prior to MRAG's September meeting a list of projects was sent out to all committee members. A weighting system was used to identify priority areas. This list was the starting point for lengthy discussions as to which projects would be reasonably achievable to be taken on by MRAG and which projects would need explicit mentioning of 'priority' when approaching authorities and/or when applying for grants etc.



#### The following list was agreed on, with no particular order of priority for the project

- Renovation of public toilets around the township
- Prevent further erosion of river embankment on walking track Dee Road and recreate safe river access by reinforcing embankment
- Erect a cover over picnic seating at the Millgrove shops and landscape the site
- Lobby for feral animal control, including deer, to protect environment and resident's safety
- Establish Millgrove's very own Community House
- Create footpath from Dee Road Bridge to O'Shannassy Aqueduct Carpark for safe access to Aqueduct Trail
- Install gabions around Memorial Park Reserve
- River Road Project stage 2: Pedestrian extension to Dee Road Bridge for safety purposes (like e.g. Brisbane Bridge, Warburton)
- Development of Wetland area at the rear of Memorial Park Reserve

### Future planning announced by Yarra Ranges Council

Location	Anticipated year of delivery	Comments
Community Sports Pavilion, Millgrove	2021	Currently in detailed design development stage
Millgrove Reserve (Oval)	2021/2022	Power upgrade
Millgrove Soccer Pitch	2022/2023	LED lighting to night competition standard – Soccer
McKenzie King Park	2024	Adventure Playground upgrade

In the same meeting the vision statement was rectified.

This plan was completed by Millgrove Residents Action Group in May 2021. The community was informed about the plan through a 4 page brochure delivered to every household by mailbox drop, as well as by email and social media. The full plan is available online through [www.mrag.net.au](http://www.mrag.net.au)

Hard copies are available on request.

The plan was presented to Yarra Ranges Council for support and acknowledgement at the Council Meeting on 25 May 2021.

**MILLGROVE COMMUNITY PLAN 2021-2024**

**OUR VISION**

Working to create a welcoming, safe and vibrant place, by being inclusive, caring and positive.  
Millgrove, a place we are proud to call home.

**OUR MISSION STATEMENT**

To contribute towards and foster the community spirit within Millgrove

**mrag**  
Millgrove Residents Action Group Inc



# THE MILLGROVE COMMUNITY PLAN 2021-2024

## VISION STATEMENT

***Working to create a welcoming, safe and vibrant place, by being inclusive, caring and positive.***

***Millgrove, a place we are proud to call home.***

## STRATEGIES AND ACTIONS

(\*2015) – Indicates projects from previous Community Development Plan which have been carried over

### ***Provide better INFRASTRUCTURE in various areas of Millgrove***

Action	Next Steps	When	Who
River Road Walking Track (*2015) – Stage 1 River Road Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Project due to be completed in 2021</li> </ul>	2020-2021 In progress	MRAG Yarra Ranges Council DELWP Melbourne Water
Water bubbler + refill tap in Memorial Park Reserve and McKenzie King Drive Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lobby Yarra Ranges Council</li> </ul>	2020 Achieved	MRAG Yarra Ranges Council Completed 2020
Set up a Township website (*2015)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Create a Millgrove township website</li> <li>Upload events, news, and information of importance to the Millgrove and broader community.</li> </ul>	2020-2021 In progress	MRAG Committed/skilled volunteers
Set up Millgrove's history for public access on MRAG's website	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Create a plan</li> <li>Involve local community</li> </ul>	2021-2024	MRAG Committed volunteers
Erect a cover over picnic seating at the Millgrove shops and landscape the site (*2015)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contact landholder to ask permission</li> <li>Draw up a plan</li> <li>Landholder to apply for permit/s</li> <li>Organise working bee</li> </ul>	2021-2023 In progress	MRAG Landholder Skilled volunteers



River Road Walking Track



Picnic seating at Millgrove shops precinct



**Provide better INFRASTRUCTURE in various areas of Millgrove**

Action	Next Steps	When	Who
Create bike/pedestrian path from Dee Road bridge to O'Shannassy Aqueduct Carpark for safe access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lobby Yarra Ranges Council</li> <li>• Lobby State Government</li> <li>• Feasibility study / including residents</li> <li>• Funding</li> <li>• Planning</li> <li>• Construction</li> </ul>	2021-2024	MRAG Yarra Ranges Council Melbourne Water DELWP Pallotti College Melbourne High School (outdoor ed) Strawberry Springs Bike riding groups
Signage for public amenities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Draw up map</li> <li>• Lobby Yarra Ranges Council</li> </ul>	2021-2022	MRAG Yarra Ranges Council
River Road Observation Deck + Bridge, built into embankment (west part of River Road) – <i>Stage 4 River Road project</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lobby Yarra Ranges Council</li> <li>• Lobby State Government</li> <li>• Feasibility study / including residents</li> <li>• Funding</li> <li>• Planning</li> <li>• Construction</li> </ul>	2024	MRAG CFA Yarra Ranges Council Melbourne Water DELWP Pallotti College Melbourne High School (outdoor ed) Strawberry Springs Bike riding groups
Widening of Warburton-Lilydale Rail Trail behind CFA-Fire Refuge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lobby Yarra Ranges Council</li> </ul>	2021-2023	MRAG CFA Yarra Ranges Council
Create seating along O'Shannassy Aqueduct Trail	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lobby Yarra Ranges Council</li> <li>• Lobby Parks Victoria/State Government</li> </ul>	2022-2023	MRAG Parks Victoria Yarra Ranges Council
Township entry way signage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approach organisations/clubs/businesses</li> <li>• Design 'board'</li> <li>• Lobby Vic Roads</li> </ul>	2023-2024	MRAG Vic Roads Yarra Ranges Council



**Provide better *INFRASTRUCTURE* in various areas of Millgrove**

Action	Next Steps	When	Who
Improve footpath between shops and McKenzie King bridge to accommodate both walkers and bicycles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Investigate traffic flow</li> <li>• Create plan</li> <li>• Lobby Yarra Ranges Council</li> </ul>	2022-2023	MRAG Yarra Ranges Council
Reconstruction of walking track to Platts Falls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research original track</li> <li>• Feasibility study</li> <li>• Funding</li> <li>• Planning</li> <li>• Construction</li> </ul>	2022-2024	MRAG Yarra Ranges Council Parks Victoria DELWP
Install park furniture in Ronald Grove Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Investigate and plan</li> <li>• Lobby Yarra Ranges Council</li> </ul>	2021-2022	MRAG DELWP CFA Yarra Ranges Council
Install park furniture around wetlands area and Memorial Park Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Investigate and plan</li> <li>• Lobby Yarra Ranges Council</li> </ul>	2022-2023	MRAG Yarra Ranges Council



**Ronald Grove Park Reserve**



**Wetlands - facing north-east**

## Address **COMMUNITY SAFETY** issues with authorities

Project/Action	Next Steps	When	Who
Install speed signs along River Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify which areas need 40km and 50km signs</li> <li>Draw up plan</li> <li>Lobby Yarra Ranges Council</li> </ul>	2020-2022	MRAG Yarra Ranges Council
Install gabions around Memorial Park Reserve (protection from Highway traffic)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify location</li> <li>Draw up plan</li> <li>Lobby Vic Transport</li> <li>Lobby Yarra Ranges Council</li> </ul>	2021-2022	MRAG CFA Police Vic Transport Yarra Ranges Council
Prevent further erosion of river embankment on walking track Dee Road (opposite no. 30-32) and recreate safe river access by reinforcing embankment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lobby Yarra Ranges Council</li> <li>Lobby State Government</li> </ul>	2020-2023 In progress	MRAG DELWP Yarra Ranges Council State Government
Create permanent steps and wheelchair access to Warburton Rail Trail behind McKenzie-King bus stop	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lobby Yarra Ranges Council</li> <li>Planning</li> <li>Funding</li> <li>Construction</li> </ul>	2020-2021 Achieved	MRAG Yarra Ranges Council
Better lighting and installing CCTV in the wider community (e.g. Shops, McKenzie King Park and the Reserve) (*2015)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lobby Yarra Ranges Council</li> <li>Meeting with police</li> <li>Set up plan</li> <li>Apply for grant</li> </ul>	2020-2021 In progress	MRAG Yarra Ranges Council CFA Police Local shop keepers School
Mirror corner Dee Rd / McNamarras (blind spot)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meet with local residents</li> <li>Draw up plan</li> <li>Lobby Yarra Ranges Council</li> </ul>	2021-2022	MRAG Yarra Ranges Council



**Yarra River embankment erosion**

**Address COMMUNITY SAFETY issues with authorities**

Project/Action	Next Steps	When	Who
Visibility traffic island at shop precinct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contact landholder</li> <li>• Draw up a plan</li> <li>• Yarra Ranges Council</li> </ul>	2021-2022	MRAG Landholder Yarra Ranges Council
Pedestrian extension to Dee Road Bridge – <i>Stage 2 River Road Project</i>  <i>(like e.g. Brisbane bridge, Warburton)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lobby Yarra Ranges Council</li> <li>• Lobby State Government</li> <li>• Feasibility study / including residents</li> <li>• Funding</li> <li>• Planning</li> <li>• Construction</li> </ul>	2021-2023	MRAG Yarra Ranges Council Melbourne Water
Install chicanes on River Road – <i>Stage 3 River Road project</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify correct area for implementing in conjunction with CFA</li> <li>• Draw up plan</li> <li>• Funding</li> <li>• Construction</li> </ul>	2022-2023	MRAG CFA Yarra Ranges Council
Support residents who want to seal their road: River Road as a priority Wonga Road, Cavanagh Road, and all other roads in Millgrove (*2015)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MRAG to support residents to meet together if they wish to put in place a special charge scheme to seal their road</li> </ul>	2021 Support achieved	Residents of Millgrove Yarra Ranges Council MRAG



**Traffic Island at shop precinct**



**Dee Road bridge**

**ENVIRONMENT – create a sustainable township for the future.**

Project/Action	Next Steps	When	Who
Lobby for feral animal control, including deer, to protect environment and resident's safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lobby Yarra Ranges Council</li> <li>• Lobby State Government</li> </ul>	2020-2023	MRAG Yarra Ranges Council State Government
Free Food Cart for sharing home grown produce, using 'boomerang' style bags for transporting goods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make plan (positioning, maintenance)</li> <li>• Get local volunteers involved</li> <li>• Seek donations</li> <li>• Approach Men's Shed</li> <li>• Paint, beautify and weatherproof cart</li> <li>• Advertise in community</li> </ul>	2020-2021	MRAG Community volunteers Millwarra PS Men's Shed
Avenue of Honour (*2015)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plaques and Signage installation</li> </ul>	2020-2021 In progress	MRAG
Development of Wetland area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Connect with local volunteers</li> <li>• Create plan</li> <li>• Lobby Yarra Ranges Council</li> <li>• Seek donations</li> </ul>	2021-2023	MRAG Local volunteers Millwarra PS Yarra Ranges Council
Community garden plots	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Get local volunteers involved</li> <li>• Make plan</li> <li>• Seek donations</li> </ul>	2022-2023	MRAG Community volunteers Millwarra PS
Signs 'take rubbish home' (*2015)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lobby Yarra Ranges Council</li> <li>• Set up plan with locations</li> <li>• Present to Council/VicRoads</li> </ul>	2021-2023	MRAG Yarra Ranges Council VicRoads



## Provide better SERVICES

Project/Action	Next Steps	When	Who
Set up a New Residents Welcome Group / Pack (*2015)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish group of interested volunteers</li> <li>Seek donations</li> <li>Create a Welcome Bag/Folder</li> <li>Identify new residents</li> </ul>	2020-2021	MRAG Committed volunteers
Lobby for better connecting public transport (*2015)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Research connections bus/train</li> <li>Draw up plan</li> <li>Lobby with Martyrs and Yarra Ranges Council</li> </ul>	2021-2022	MRAG Yarra Ranges Council Martyrs
Establish Millgrove's very own Community House	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish group of interested/committed volunteers</li> <li>Feasibility study</li> <li>Find location</li> <li>Lobby Yarra Ranges Council</li> </ul>	2021-2024	MRAG Yarra Ranges Council Committed volunteers
Community Festival	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Make plan</li> <li>Lobby for group of volunteers</li> <li>Lobby Yarra Ranges Council</li> <li>Seek donations</li> </ul>	2021-2022	MRAG Volunteer group Yarra Ranges Council
Renovation of public toilets around township, including drinking water facilities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Draw up a plan</li> <li>Lobby Yarra Ranges Council</li> </ul>	2021-2022	MRAG Yarra Ranges Council
Interpretation gateway with map, information, and business promotion at Memorial Park Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lobby within the community for volunteers</li> <li>Create plan</li> <li>Lobby Yarra Ranges Council</li> </ul>	2021-2023	MRAG Volunteer group Yarra Ranges Council
Research and documentation of Millgrove's history	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish group of interested/committed volunteers</li> <li>Create a plan</li> <li>Involve local community</li> <li>Seek funding</li> <li>Publish book</li> </ul>	2021-2024 In progress	MRAG Local Community State Government Yarra Ranges Council
Support Millgrove residents who want to have utility services out to their street.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MRAG to support residents to meet together if they wish to put in place services to their street.</li> </ul>	2021-2023	MRAG Yarra Ranges Council Yarra Valley Water Ausnet



Dee Road toilet block

## Set up **TOURISM** and **RECREATIONAL** activities

Project/Action	Next Steps	When	Who
Organise fun events with a focus on young families	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Draw up master plan</li> <li>• Determine event grounds</li> <li>• Invite stallholders etc</li> <li>• Lobby for sponsors</li> </ul>	2021-2024	MRAG Committed volunteers Yarra Ranges Council
Erect a Rotunda around barbeque in Memorial Park Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lobby Yarra Ranges Council</li> <li>• Draw up plan</li> <li>• Seek donations of materials</li> </ul>	2021-2023	MRAG Yarra Ranges Council Local tradesmen/ volunteers
Create Miniature Railway in Memorial Park Reserve near Warburton Rail Trail	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Determine location</li> <li>• Contact mini railway groups</li> <li>• Investigate tracks, wagons, storage space, maintenance etc</li> <li>• Feasibility study</li> <li>• Seek donations</li> <li>• Funding</li> <li>• Planning</li> <li>• Construction</li> </ul>	2022-2023	MRAG Yarra Ranges Council VicRoads Local skilled volunteers Local other volunteers
Introduce bocce (petanque) to the market or have permanent area set up on the Memorial Park Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lobby for volunteers</li> <li>• Acquire game equipment</li> <li>• Create area to play the game</li> </ul>	2021-2022	Local volunteers MRAG Yarra Ranges Council
Weekly 'games on the green'	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lobby for volunteers</li> <li>• Lobby Millwarra PS + Preschool</li> <li>• Create plan, including storage for games</li> <li>• Acquire game equipment</li> </ul>	2021-2022	Local volunteers MRAG Millwarra PS Millgrove Preschool
Viewing platform at the sawmill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Determine location</li> <li>• Draw up a plan</li> <li>• Lobby for donations / funding of materials</li> </ul>	2023-2024	MRAG Local skilled volunteers Owner sawmill



**Set up TOURISM and RECREATIONAL activities**

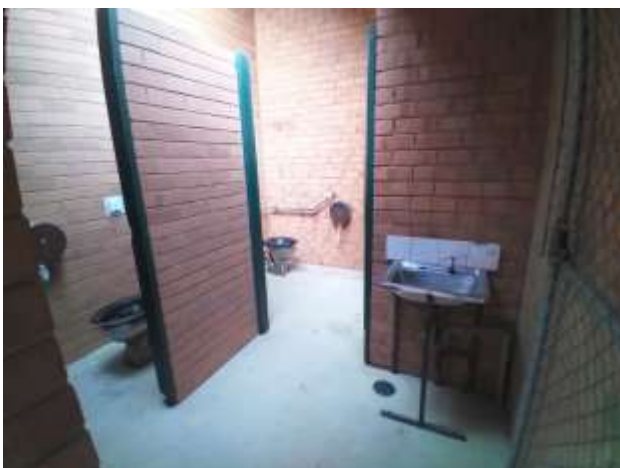
Project/Action	Next Steps	When	Who
Parks & gardens improvement (*2015)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Seek donations</li> <li>Lobby Yarra Ranges Council</li> </ul>	ongoing	MRAG Yarra Ranges Council Local volunteers
Create a log bogey at the entrance to the Memorial Park Reserve (*2015)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lobby Yarra Ranges Council</li> <li>Draw up a plan and present to Council</li> <li>Seek donations of materials</li> </ul>	2022-2023	MRAG Yarra Ranges Council Skilled volunteers Mill owner
Playground McKenzie King Drive Reserve (Anticipated delivery 2024)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lobby for group of parents and other interested volunteers</li> <li>Millgrove Preschool</li> <li>Millwarra PS</li> <li>Create plan with Council support</li> </ul>	2023-2024	Parent volunteer group MRAG Millgrove Preschool Millwarra PS Yarra Ranges Council
Art on 'blind' shop walls ('trompe de l'oeil' or similar)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contact landholder</li> <li>Draw up a plan</li> <li>Seek artist</li> </ul>	2021-2022	MRAG Landholder
Some playground equipment at Memorial Park Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lobby for group of parent and other interested volunteers</li> <li>Millgrove Preschool</li> <li>Millwarra PS</li> <li>Create plan with Council support</li> </ul>	2021-2023	Parent volunteer group MRAG Millgrove Preschool Millwarra PS Yarra Ranges Council





### 1. Infrastructure

- River Road walkway and footbridge to connect River Road to Dee Road
- Renew/renovate toilet blocks at Memorial Park Reserve and Dee Road Bridge
- Renew/makeover McKenzie King Drive Playground
- Water bubbler/water bottle refill tap at O'Shannassy Aqueduct and next to Millgrove CFA
- Seating along the O'Shannassy Aqueduct trail
- Set up Millgrove's history for public access on MRAG's website
- Seal Wonga Road
- Signage for public amenities
- Shelters and extra picnic tables at O'Shannassy Aqueduct car park
- Better advertising of community halls and community space
- Reconstruction of walking track to Platts Falls
- Pedestrian extension on Dee Rd Bridge
- Traffic mirror at corner of Tulloch and River Roads
- Traffic mirror at the corner of Dee Road and McNamara's Road
- Dee Road walking track – rock on river embankment to stop erosion
- Permanent steps + pram/bike/wheelchair access, next to McKenzie King Bridge Bus stop, to get onto the Warburton Trail
- Riverside paths linking Ronald Grove through to Riverturn Lane, Warburton and Whinwell street Millgrove through to Station Road Wesburn.
- Town water to McNamara Road
- Improve footpath between shops to McKenzie King Drive to accommodate both walkers and cyclists.
- Street furniture around wetlands area and Memorial Park Reserve
- Township entry way signage
- Build toilets at O'Shannassy Aqueduct Carpark
- BMX track
- Install a map at the O'Shannassy Aqueduct Look Out pointing to places of interest
- Update tables and chairs at the shops and add some cover



Toilets at Memorial Park Reserve



Dee Rd toilet block



Ronald Grove

## 2. Community Safety

- CCTV + lighting
- Walking track parallel to Dee Road all the way up to the O'Shannassy Aqueduct Carpark for safety of walkers and cyclists
- Next to McKenzie King Bridge Bus stop: Permanent steps + pram/bike access to get onto the Warburton Trail
- Widen and seal the top of Dee Road leading to Aqueduct
- Another fire truck
- Mirror on corner of Dee Rd / McNamarras Rd, it is a blind spot
- River Road walkway and footbridge/ crossover between River Road and Dee Road
- Visibility traffic island at shop precinct
- Seal Wonga Rd
- Concern in regard to deer – damage/accidents etc
- Establish speed humps at the corner of Cavanagh Road and Gillis Street
- More slow down signs on unmade roads
- Safety: walking track behind CFA - needs widening of track or a mirror
- More signage for community and emergency radio
- Road signs – 'ducks crossing'
- Fence around Millgrove Saw Mill for safety
- 'Single lane' signage at the Dee Rd bridge
- Some undercover shelter for the homeless to sleep
- Establish CCTV and lighting around shops



### 3. The local environment

- Address feral animal control (deer, rabbits, foxes) using non- toxic means
- Respond to damage to property and road accidents occurring due to increased number of feral deer
- Community Garden Plots
- Free food cart for sharing home grown produce – Community Exchange
- Develop the wetland area (near traffic lights) with seating – Natural Environment
- Address weeds
- Ensure board walk along highway remains above water level
- Signs around river walks to encourage people to take their rubbish home
- Wild life tunnel under Warburton Hwy
- Painting of shops to beautify our town centre
- Public fitness equipment
- Keep things as rural as possible and simple
- Stop river embankment erosion on Dee Road track
- Make Millgrove a plastic free environment
- More sealed roads

### 4. Services

- Our very own Community House
- More frequent bus service connection to Lilydale trains (from and to)
- Town water to McNamara Road
- Renovate inside of public toilet blocks around township (e.g.like Mooroolbark)
- Short distance walking group
- Research and documentation of Millgrove's history
- Introduce Bocce game (petanque) to the market or have space set up for it on the 'village green'
- Increase frequency of market
- A bush dance at Millgrove
- Improved transport services



## 5. Tourism & Recreation

- Mural on shop walls e.g. re goldmining/ native animals/ log truck
- Organise fun events with a focus on young families
- Events signage / banners
- Viewing platform at the sawmill
- Miniature Railway in Park near rail trail
- Observation deck River Road, near Dee Road Bridge
- Drink Bottle carry bag for walkers with Millgrove 'embroidered' on it
- Millgrove tote bag
- Reconstruction of walking track to Platts Falls
- BMX track
- Sculptures in gardens relating to Millgrove history
- Seating along O'Shannassy Aqueduct Trail
- Update the picnic tables area near the shops + provide shelter
- Shelter over BBQ in Memorial Park Reserve
- Install a map at the O'Shannassy Aqueduct Lookout pointing to places of interest
- Shelters over picnic tables at O'Shannassy Aqueduct Lookout
- A labyrinth with a meeting area for locals
- Bus service to Mount Donna Buang in winter
- Observation deck on River Road near the Dee Road Bridge
- Pedestrian extension on Dee Road Bridge
- Miniature railway in Memorial Park Reserve behind the rail trail
- Introduce bocce (petanque) to the market or have permanent area set up
- Weekly 'Games on the Green'; for all local residents to connect with their community
- Establishment of a small playground in the Memorial Park Reserve
- Development of a wet land area
- Lobby for beautification of shops







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 Millgrove Residents Action Group

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